

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Amend claims 1-3 and 5, as follows.

Listing of Claims:

1 1. **(Currently amended)** A method for performing multi-counter
2 evaluation of a text, said method comprising computer-implemented steps
3 of:
4 applying to the text a finite-state machine augmented with state
5 value lists, where each state value list indicates which counter of the multi-
6 counter scores receive receives which values value for the state, and
7 state;
8 state scores are accumulated accumulating the values of the states
9 separately for each counter of the multi-counter, thereby producing a list of
10 counter scores. scores; and
11 ~~returning the counter scores.~~
12 updating each counter with its counter score.

1 2. **(Currently amended)** A method for performing multi-counter
2 evaluation of a text, said method comprising computer-implemented steps
3 of:
4 applying to the text a finite-state machine augmented with state
5 value lists, where each state value list indicates which patterns in which
6 counters of the multi-counter are found when the state is entered and ;
7 producing a list of patterns is produced for each counter; and
8 ~~returning the lists of found patterns.~~
9 updating each counter with its list of patterns.

1 **3. (Currently amended)** A method for constructing a multi-
2 counter finite-state machine augmented with state value lists, said method
3 comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
4 providing by computer an empty augmented finite-state machine
5 that has only a start state, with no transitions and no value list; ~~and~~
6 accumulating each by computer a finite-state machine of each
7 counter of the multi-counter that corresponds to one or more pattern-
8 amount pairs into the augmented finite-state machine to form a merged
9 machine, including
10 converting state values of states of the finite-state machines of the
11 counters of the multi-counter into state-value lists of states of the merged
12 ~~machine. machine, and~~
13 updating the merged machine with the state-value lists.

1 **4. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 3, wherein the
2 step of accumulating a finite-state machine of each counter of the multi-
3 counter that corresponds to one or more pattern-amount pairs into the
4 augmented finite-state machine to form a merged machine further
5 comprises the computer-implemented steps of:
6 forming states for the merged machine that correspond to pairs of
7 states that can be reached by starting the finite-state machine of a counter
8 of the multi-counter and the augmented finite-state machine in the their
9 start states and applying the machines finite-state machine of the counter
10 and the augmented finite-state machine to a text in unison, with each the
11 finite-state machine of the counter and the augmented finite-state machine
12 advancing through each text character simultaneously;
13 forming states for the merged machine that correspond to one of
14 the finite-state machine of the counter and the augmented finite-state
15 machine having halted while the other another of the finite-state machine

16 of the counter and the augmented finite-state machine continues to
17 advance through the text;
18 for each merged machine state, if there is a corresponding state of
19 the augmented finite-state machine state of the counter and it has a value
20 list, then copying the value list to form the value list for the new merged
21 machine state;
22 for each merged machine state, if there is a corresponding state of
23 the finite-state machine of the counter state, it has value a value, and the
24 merged machine state has no value list, then forming a new empty value
25 list for the merged machine state;
26 for each merged machine state, if there is a the corresponding state
27 of the finite-state machine of the counter state and it has value a value,
28 then adding a reference to the counter corresponding to the finite-state
29 machine and the value value, to the value list for the merged machine
30 state;
31 for each merged machine state with a corresponding first state of
32 the augmented finite-state machine state and a corresponding second
33 state of the finite-state machine state of the counter, for each character in
34 transitions from both the first and the second states, forming a transition
35 for from the merged machine state, with destination of the transition being
36 a state of the merged machine state corresponding to the states of the
37 augmented finite-state machine and the finite-state machine of the counter
38 that are the destinations of the transitions from the first and the second
39 states;
40 for each merged machine state with a corresponding third state of
41 the augmented finite-state machine state and a corresponding fourth state
42 of the finite-state machine state, of the counter, for each character in a
43 transition from only one of the third and the fourth corresponding states,
44 forming a transition for from the merged machine state, with destination of
45 the transition being a state of the merged machine state corresponding to

46 the state of the augmented finite-state machine or the finite-state machine
47 of the counter that is the destination of the transition from the third or the
48 fourth state and the machine without the transition from the third or the
49 fourth state having halted; and
50 for each merged machine state with a corresponding fifth state of
51 the augmented finite-state machine state or a corresponding sixth state of
52 the finite-state machine state of the counter but not both, for each
53 character in a transition from the fifth or the sixth corresponding state,
54 forming a transition for from the merged machine state, with destination of
55 the transition being a state of the merged machine state corresponding to
56 the state of the augmented finite-state machine or the finite-state machine
57 of the counter that is the destination of the transition from the fifth or the
58 sixth state and the machine without the transition from the fifth or the sixth
59 state having halted.

1 5. **(Currently amended)** A method for adding a pattern that
2 consists of a single sequence of characters and a corresponding pattern
3 value value, from a counter to an augmented finite-state machine, said
4 method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
5 providing a pattern the pattern;
6 providing a corresponding the corresponding pattern value;
7 providing an the augmented finite-state machine having a plurality
8 of machine states;
9 advancing through the machine states as by applying the machine
10 to the sequence of characters as a text;
11 if the machine would halt when applied to the sequence of
12 characters as a text, then adding states and transitions to the machine to
13 prevent halting; and
14 forbearing from the adding if the machine would not halt when
15 applied to the sequence of characters as a text;

16 for the a final state that would be reached by the machine
17 supplemented with the added states and transitions, forming a state value
18 list if the final state lacks one a state value list, forbearing from forming a
19 state value list if the final state has a state value list, and adding to the
20 state value list a reference to the counter and the pattern ~~value~~; and
21 updating the final state of the machine with the state value list.